

PATENT**REMARKS**

Claims 19- 41 are pending in the present application.

In the above amendments, claims 1-18 and 42-85 have been canceled without prejudice, and claims 19-21, 24, 33-34, and 36-41 have been amended.

In this response, applicant affirms the provisional election without traverse of Group II, claims 18-41, outlined on page 2 of the Office Action. The non-elected claims have been canceled.

Double Patenting

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments to claims 19-20, 24, 33-34, and 36-41, the outstanding double patenting rejections over claim 9 of co-pending Application No. 10/646,242, are no longer applicable. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of this rejection.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

In the Office Action, claim 18 was rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Jamal, US Patent 5,754,539. This rejection is respectfully deemed moot in view of the cancellation of claim 18, supra.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, claims 19-41 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

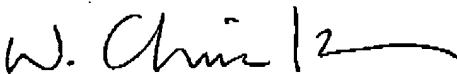
Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. Accordingly, dependent claims 19-20, 24, 33-34, and 36-41 have been rewritten in independent form.

PATENT**REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE**

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that all pending claims in the application are patentable. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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